

CLASSIFICATION SECRETCOUNTRY East Germany REPORTTOPIC Pay Reductions in the Soviet Zone of Germany and Observations at thePriort Railroad Station

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EVALUATION [REDACTED] PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED]

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DATE OF CONTENT [REDACTED]DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED] DATE PREPARED 9 August 1955REFERENCES [REDACTED]

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PAGES 1 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) [REDACTED]REMARKS [REDACTED]

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This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. [REDACTED] the pay of regular soldiers and officers had been reduced
[REDACTED] percent. [REDACTED]

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2. [REDACTED] Soviet officers and soldiers received only about 60 percent of their
former pay. In June a Soviet captain received 600 eastmarks instead of 1,000
eastmarks.

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3. [REDACTED] the pay of officers and reenlisted personnel had been considerably reduced.
[REDACTED] A lieutenant
allegedly received 200 eastmarks less than previously. [REDACTED] in a
oeberitz commissary [REDACTED] sales had considerably decreased during the last
weeks, reportedly, because of pay reductions.

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4. In late June, a number of Soviet officers with families daily left the Priort
railroad station and went on leave. The officers, who drank quite a lot in the
restaurant at the station, talked repeatedly about an 8-week leave in the USSR,
and stated that they would return without dependents.

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[REDACTED] Comment. In view of the information in paragraph 4 of the present report,
there is reason to believe that the pay was not actually reduced but kept back
in order to prevent the returning Soviet families from excessive buying in German
shops. It could not be determined whether all Soviet families were to return to
the USSR, or whether the pertinent military personnel had completed their term of
service in East Germany. No other indications of a retransfer of Soviet families
are available.

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